

8 September 2023

Dear

Request for Information – ATISN 18837

Thank you for your request for information which was received on Sunday 13 August 2023.

You requested all information regarding the nitrogen dioxide levels from 2021-2023 on the A494.

I can confirm we hold information you have requested but only for the parts of the A494 which we monitor – namely A494 Deeside. I have concluded, however, that it is exempt from disclosure under Section 21 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, information otherwise available.

The information requested is available at the following weblinks:

[Annual data on NO2 concentrations for the motorway and trunk road: 2018 to 2019 \(gov.wales\)](#)

[Annual data on NO2 concentrations for the motorway and trunk road: 2020 to 2021 | GOV.WALES](#)

Further information on road pollutant data prior to the implementation of the speed limit can be found here:

[Tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations in Wales \(WelTAG stage 3\) | GOV.WALES](#)

The data for 2022 has not yet been formerly published online but was provided recently for another Fol and is below:

Annual mean nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentrations on the motorway and trunk road network on the A494 Deeside in 2022.

Location	Urban background	Roadside
A494 Deeside, St David's interchange to Deeside Park interchange	17.0 (14.8)	32.0 (27.8)

Notes

All the locations are detailed in the *Welsh Government Supplemental plan to the UK plan for tackling roadside nitrogen dioxide concentrations 2017*. Each location is subject to an enforced 50mph speed limit to reduce vehicle emissions. The 50mph limit will be retained for the foreseeable future. Monitoring at this location has been undertaken since December 2017.

The data has been collected by diffusion tube and has been adjusted using the national bias adjustment factors published by Defra. Adjusted figures are shown in brackets alongside the raw data. All figures are presented as micrograms (one millionth of a gram) per cubic metre of air ($\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$).

Concentrations at this location were compliant with the statutory annual mean NO₂ limit value of 40 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$.

Roadside air quality is sensitive to a range of factors, including weather/seasonal effects, traffic flows and volumes, vehicle speeds and fleet mix.

Welsh Government continues to explore the case for further intervention where necessary to ensure long-term compliance with statutory limits.

If you are dissatisfied with the Welsh Government's handling of your request, you can ask for an internal review within 40 working days of the date of this response. Requests for an internal review should be addressed to the Welsh Government's Freedom of Information Officer at:

Information Rights Unit,
Welsh Government,
Cathays Park,
Cardiff,
CF10 3NQ or

freedomofinformation@gov.wales

Please remember to quote the ATISN reference number above.

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office,
Wycliffe House,
Water Lane,
Wilmslow,
Cheshire,
SK9 5AF

However, please note that the Commissioner will not normally investigate a complaint until it has been through our own internal review process.

Yours sincerely